

## CLAIMS:

1. A device (1) arranged for receiving activation codes (20) and carrying out a check, for each activation code, whether the code was received in a predetermined order and within a certain time period, the device further being arranged for de-activating an application if the check fails.
- 5 2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the application controls the device itself.
3. The device according to claim 1 or 2, further being arranged for receiving the  
10 activation codes by reading at least one token (2).
4. The device according to claim 3, wherein each token (2) contains a single activation code (20).
- 15 5. The device according to claim 3, wherein the token (2) is re-writable.
6. The device according to claim 3, wherein the token (2) is an optical information carrier, preferably an SFFO disc.
- 20 7. The device according to claim 1, wherein the activation codes (20) are constituted by strings of alphanumeric characters each comprising a serial number and/or a version number.
8. The device according to claim 1, wherein the application is a software  
25 application executed by the device.
9. A toy comprising a device (1) according to claim 1, the toy preferably comprising an artificial pet.

10.           A mobile telephone comprising a device (1) according to claim 1.
11.           An optical information carrier (2) for use in a device (1) according to claim 1.
- 5   12.           A method of de-activating an application (3) or a device (1), the method comprising:
- receiving activation codes (20),
  - carrying out a check, for each activation code, whether the code was received in a predetermined order and within a certain time period, and

10   - de-activating the application or the device if the check fails.
13.           The method according to claim 12, wherein the device receives an activation code by reading a token (2).
- 15   14.           The method according to claim 12 or 13, wherein the token (2) is an optical information carrier, preferably an SFFO disc.